

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A safety needle assembly comprising a needle hub with proximal and distal ends and a passage extending between said ends, a needle cannula mounted to said passage of said needle hub and having a pointed distal end projecting beyond said distal end of said hub, a shield having proximal and distal ends, said proximal end of said shield being hingedly mounted to said hub for rotation from a first position where said shield is spaced from said needle cannula to a second position where said shield substantially shields said needle cannula, said shield comprising a top wall, and opposed first and second sidewalls extending from said top wall, said shield including a rearward portion adjacent said proximal end of said shield configured for partly enclosing said hub and a forward portion adjacent said distal end of said shield configured for partly surrounding said needle, said rearward portion being cross-sectionally larger than said forward portion, a clip having an elongate base mounted to said top wall of said shield, a plurality of cannula finger locks projecting from said base of said clip and configured for locked engagement with said needle when said shield is rotated to said second position.

2. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said clip lies entirely within said forward portion of said shield.

3. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said base of said clip includes a proximal end disposed in said rearward portion of said shield, at least one of said cannula finger locks projecting from said proximal end of said base.

4. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said top wall of said shield includes a plurality of mounting apertures, said clip comprising a plurality of mounting projections extending from said base and secured in locked engagement in said mounting apertures of said shield.

5. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein each said cannula finger lock includes a support leg extending from said base and a locking finger extending from said support leg, said locking finger being aligned and dimensioned for locked engagement with said needle cannula

6. The safety needle assembly of claim 5, wherein the support leg is resiliently deflectable relative to said base.

7. The safety needle assembly of claim 6, wherein the locking finger of each said cannula finger lock is resiliently deflectable relative to said support leg.

8. The safety needle assembly of claim 5, wherein the locking finger of each said cannula finger lock is resiliently deflectable relative to said support leg.

9. The safety needle assembly of claim 3, wherein each said cannula finger lock is substantially rigid.

10. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said plurality of cannula finger locks define two cannula finger locks.

11. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said plurality of cannula finger locks define three cannula finger locks.

12. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, further comprising a medical device connected to said needle hub.

13. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein the medical device comprises a holder for releasably receiving a fluid collection tube.

14. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein the medical device is a syringe.

15. The safety needle assembly of claim 1, wherein the medical device comprises an intravenous infusion set.